

REMARKS

Reconsideration And Allowance Are Respectfully Requested.

Claims 1-20 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 12 have been amended. No new matter has been added. No new claims have been added. No claims have been deleted. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants would first like to thank Primary Examiner Jack Chiang for the courtesies extended during the Interview conducted on November 28, 2001. During the course of the Interview, claims 1 and 12 were discussed as they relate to U.S. Patent No. 3,993,879 to Larkin ("Larkin") and U.S. Patent No. 4,335,281 to Scott et al. ("Scott"). Specifically, Applicants' proposed amending claims 1 and 12 to define a speaker including a cover secured over the driver, wherein the driver and cover are sealed within the enclosure in a manner defining a plurality of chambers about the driver. Applicants further proposed amending the claims to define that the speaker sound tube passes through the cover for access to vibrations generated by the driver. Applicants have amended claims 1 and 12 accordingly.

With regard to the rejections based upon prior art, claims 1-5 and 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Larkin in view of Scott. In addition, claims 7, 8, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Larkin and Scott in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,918,550 to Milani. These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the preceding amendments and the remarks which follow.

Specifically, claims 1 and 12 have been amended to define a cellular telephone including a user communication component linking a user to a cellular telephone without transmitting radiation leakage associated with the use of cellular telephones. The cellular telephone includes a plurality of

operating components transmitting outgoing signals and receiving incoming signals. The operating components include an incoming signal output which processes incoming signals and outputs the incoming signals for the user. The cellular telephone further includes an interface linking the operating components to a user. The interface includes a speaker coupled to the incoming signal output. The speaker amplifies and converts incoming signals from the incoming signal output to audible signals.

The speaker includes a driver which is sealed within an integral enclosure having a single opening shaped and dimensioned for receiving a speaker sound tube. The speaker further includes a cover secured over the driver. The driver and cover are sealed within the enclosure in a manner defining a plurality of chambers about the driver, wherein the speaker sound tube passes through the cover for access to vibrations generated by the driver. The speaker sound tube links the user to the speaker and includes a first end and a second end. The first end of the speaker sound tube is coupled to the speaker for receiving audible signals generated thereby and the second end includes a user communication component through which the user can listen to the audible signals generated by the speaker.

In contrast to the claimed invention, neither Larkin, Scott nor any of the other prior art references of record in the above-referenced application, disclose a speaker assembly wherein a cover is secured over the driver and the driver and cover are sealed within an enclosure in a manner defining a plurality of chambers about a driver. In addition, none of the cited prior art references disclose a speaker sound tube passing through the cover for transmitting the vibrations generated by the driver.

The claimed speaker assembly improves efficiency as required for transmitting sound from a cellular telephone to the ear of a user. The improved efficiency reduces energy consumption

required to transmit and generate sound, and also improves the overall quality of the sound reaching the user's ear.

In consideration of the fact that the prior art neither discloses nor suggests such a speaker assembly, it is Applicants' opinion that amended claims 1 and 12 overcome the prior art of record. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

With regard to those claims dependent upon independent claims 1 and 12, they are believed to overcome the prior art for the reasons presented above. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections relating to these claims also be withdrawn.

Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested. If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact applicants' representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,


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